



## Snow Creek Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Road, Martinsville  
Virginia, 24112  
Phone 276-638-5272  
[www.snowcreekcc.com](http://www.snowcreekcc.com)  
Like us on facebook



*January 2021*

## Reflections

When people look back at 2020, it will undoubtedly be remembered as the year of the pandemic. Throughout the world, coronavirus has infiltrated nearly every aspect of life to some extent or another. As you all are well aware, this includes our worship lives.

The bad news looking ahead is that this will not change much with the turn of the calendar page. Case numbers in the weeks around Christmas were near or above the highest levels of the pandemic at both local, state, and national levels. This will most likely mean a spike in deaths throughout the first month of the new year. Vaccines have now become available, but are in very limited supply and facing serious distribution challenges. Since the first one was administered on December 14, more people have gotten sick from the virus nationally than have been vaccinated. In Virginia, mitigation measures will be in place throughout all of January. These are nowhere near as severe however as those in place in the spring. This means that as cases are peaking, individuals are being given much more responsibility for controlling the spread. By now, we all know the most effective measures for doing so and avoiding congregating with large crowds is certainly near the top. For that reason, I would strongly advise that Snow Creek continue our current combination of drive-in and online worship opportunities each Sunday and I urge everyone to be cautious and considerate in your daily comings and goings.

With all of that said, though 2021 does not appear to be all doom and gloom. In fact, I am looking forward to lots of really good news next year. First though, I think it is important to point out the resilience that the church has shown throughout 2020. We have managed to survive within a reduced budget. We have kept giving at a high level despite the economic challenges this year has brought. In fact, we have increased our giving to the larger Disciples church and the important work that they support by beginning to implement a series of special holiday offerings. We have not only met our outreach expectations but doubled them. It is here that I have to embarrass Ruby Mae Oakes a little bit because she is the major reason for this as she has been making and selling masks throughout the year and donating the proceeds towards this endeavor. We have continued to support the backpack program with Snow Creek Elementary School despite the challenges that they have faced with many students not in the building. I have seen countless examples of members of the church caring for their fellow members and other neighbors throughout all of the disruptions. We have done all of this without the shouting and name-calling that have been highlighted in so many other areas of society. Snow Creek may not have thrived in 2020, but we have done much more than just barely survive. There has already been a lot of really good news.

And 2021 looks like a year where we can expect

even more. There will be difficult months ahead and predicting the future is often a fool's errand, but I am cautiously optimistic that we can be in a position to once again come together for events like homecoming and VBS. God has seen the church through to this point. In God, I am hopeful for the promise that the upcoming year holds, joyful for the perseverance that we have shown through the last, and thankful for

the love that continues to flow through the congregation at Snow Creek Christian Church in good times and bad. Let us look forward to a Happy New Year.

God be with you.

Scott

# Praise the Lord

Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;  
they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name!

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever!

Psalms 111:1-10

## January Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

January 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day)

- Jeremiah 31:7-14
- Psalm 147:12-20
- Ephesians 1:3-14
- *John 1:1-18*
- 

January 10 (Baptism of the Lord)

- Genesis 1:1-5
- Psalm 29
- Acts 19:1-7
- *Mark 1:4-11*

January 17 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany)

- *1 Samuel 3:1-20*
- Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
- John 1:43-51

January 24 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany)

- *Jonah 3:1-5, 10*
- Psalm 62:5-12
- 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- Mark 1:14-20

January 31 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany)

- Deuteronomy 18:15-20
- Psalm 111
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
- *Mark 1:21-28*

### Thank You

I wanted to say a special thank you to the congregation for the generous gift that you all presented to me and my family this Christmas. Even more than that, I want to thank you all for your continued support of me and the church throughout a year with a lot of unexpected twists and turns. It has been a privilege to be able to serve this congregation and I am looking forward to another year together with you in worship and service of God. Thanks!

Scott

**AS SCOTT MENTIONED IN HIS ARTICLE ABOVE, A BIG THANK YOU TO RUBY MAE FOR ALL HER HARD WORK IN MAKING MASKS FOR MANY, MANY PEOPLE AND KIDS IN THE AREA. ALSO, SHE DONATED THE PROCEEDS TO OUTREACH TO HELP INDIVIDUALS IN MANY WAYS DURING THESE HARD TIMES. I AM SO, SO PROUD TO CALL HER AUNT!!**



## *CHRISTMAS EVE DRIVE IN SERVICE*

The Christmas Eve Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was really nice. Minister Scott read the nine lessons with taped Christmas Music intermingled. The music Included the Church Choir, Mike Doyle, and various artists. Brodie assisted in Lighting the advent candles. Thank you Scott, Laurie, Brodie, Debbie, Mike, and the Fabulous Church Choir for this great service.











*SPECIAL THANKS TO MINISTER SCOTT FOR THE CREATIVE WAY YOU HANDLED ALL THE EVENTS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.*

# ***THE SEASON OF GIVING***

*This year the Church Family donated funds to provide Christmas Meals for Backpack Families from Snow Creek Elementary School in lieu of buying poinsettias for the Church Sanctuary. Below is the list of monetary donations and the names of the donors. **SPECIAL THANKS TO DEBBIE HAYNES AND THOSE WHO ASSISTED WITH THE PROCESS AND COORDINATION INVOLVED IN MAKING THE MEALS HAPPEN FOR THE FAMILIES. HER REMARKS ARE BELOW.***

Monetary Donations were given in memory/honor of:

In memory of Robert & Evelyn Perdue, Otis & Viola Ferguson & Jeffery Perdue  
by Douglas & Janet Perdue

In memory of Jerry & Georgie Anderson by Gusta Morris

In memory of Blair Motley III by Joyce Ingram

In memory of our loved ones by Ruby Mae, Tony & Nancy

In memory of our loved ones by Del & Barbara Smith

In memory of Mike Damon & Glenn Plybon by Wanda Damon

In memory of our loved ones by Jarrett & Patti Amos

In memory of Edna & Jesse Doyle, Vernon Doyle, Carolyn Doyle Cobler & Grover & Alma Fleming  
by Mike & Pam Doyle

In memory of Carroll Ashby by Lisa Shepherd

In memory of Bobby & Eleanor Washburn by Josh & Morgan Washburn

In memory of Fred & Elizabeth Wingfield, Brenda Matherly, Phyllis Oakes & Allen Walker  
by Susan Walker

In memory of Myrl, Stephen & Ruth Martin by Nancy Martin

In memory of our parents by Jimmie & Vivian Doyle

In honor of our children by Jimmie & Vivian Doyle

In memory of our Parents & In honor of our Children by Curtis & Louise Washburn

In memory of our loved ones by Sammy & Kay Boyd

In memory of Berlin Hanks by Opal Hanks

The total amount of the donations given for the Christmas meal was \$585.00  
Other donations received were:  
Forrest Hill Christian Church gave \$500.00  
Snow Creek Masonic Lodge gave \$1,200.00

We fed 46 Children and 22 adults a Christmas meal for a total cost of \$337.27. The meal included a large ham, gallon each of green beans, corn and pork & beans, mac & cheese, brown & serve rolls, 10 lb. bag of potatoes, 2 brownie mixes with bottle of oil and eggs.

Food was also provided for all 46 children until they return to school on Jan. 4th.

On behalf of all the families, I want to thank everyone for your support of the backpack program. Without your generous donations, we would not be able to provide food for these children.

Since school began in September, we have provided weekend food for 39 children each week.

Again, thank you so much for your support.

Debbie



Great are the works of the LORD;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Psalm 111:2



# Our Youth

OUR CREATIVE YOUTH, LESLEY AND KELLYN, LISTENING TO MINISTER SCOTT'S MESSAGE FROM THE ROOF TOPS OF THE FAMILY VEHICLE ON A NICE DAY IN THE DRIVE IN CHURCH SERVICE.





WALKER AND BARRETT WORKING HARD WITH THE HELP OF ERICIA TO  
MAKE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY



This is the message  
We have heard from Him  
And proclaim to you  
That God is light  
And in Him  
Is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5



# In Memory of

## William Carlton Oakes

William Carlton Oakes, age 94, passed away on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at his home in Snow Creek with his family by his side. He was born in Pittsylvania County, on July 8, 1926, to the late Tasville Carr and Lula Yeatts Oakes. He had 12 brothers and sisters who all preceded him in death; brothers, Charlie, Henry, Eugene, Kelly, Curtis, and Letcher, Leslie; sisters, Eva Parsons, Cordie Parsons, Lila Farthing, Gladys Reynolds, and Bernice Oakes; and granddaughter, Laura Cabell Oakes.

Surviving are his loving wife of 72 years, Bernice Eggleston Oakes; son, Gerald Carlton (Anne) Oakes; daughters, Joyce (Jim) Thompson, and Cynthia (Ricki) Oakes; grandsons, Adam and Brian (Maia) Thompson; and the light of his life, great-grandson, Avery Carlton Thompson; sister-in-law, Ruby Mae Oakes; numerous nieces and nephews; and two "just like" daughters, Donna and Mollie.



Carlton was devoted to his family and was a beloved neighbor, and, at age 94, was the oldest member of the Snow Creek community. He was also a member of the Snow Creek Christian Church. Carlton started his life farming with his father and brothers. He left the farm for factory work and wound up working at DuPont in Martinsville for 33 years before retiring in 1985. Carlton was a veteran and served in the Navy during World War II aboard the USS William R. Rush. Carlton loved hunting and stock car racing. He also loved building things and was a real handyman who was always willing to help others. He built his own house in Snow Creek where he lived from 1955 until his death.

Carlton was blessed to be able to stay in his family home with his wife Bernice due to the devoted care of his daughter Cynthia and her husband, Ricki.

Due to the pandemic, funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Snow Creek Rescue Squad or the Snow Creek Fire Department.

Carlton was a longtime valued resident of the Snow Creek Community and member of our Church. He was the last sibling of a large family that loved him very much. Carlton was very proud of his military service. He loved to talk to Del (another Navy Veteran) about his time in the Navy.

Bernice and Carlton were always so pleasant and friendly at Church. In recent years, I would bring them a copy of the newsletter. They continuously picked on each other with such humor. They had great stories to tell and were a pleasure to be around.

On a personal note: In recent years, Carlton would talk to me about how he liked to spend time talking with my Dad at work at Dupont and how much he thought of him. These conversations meant a lot to me.

*Carlton was a very special man and touched all of us that were blessed to know him.*  
~Barbara~

PLEASE REMEMBER VICKIE WASHBURN ON HER BIRTHDAY  
JANUARY 9.

Since she is unable to see the Church Family as much as in the past, please remember her on her Birthday by sending her a card. She loves to receive cards. Her address is:

Vickie Washburn  
145 East Church Street  
Rocky Mt. 24151, Va.







## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

2 Krystal Washburn  
3 Ed Ingram  
4 Tyler Jordan  
4 Ryan Haynes  
8 Nancy Compton  
9 Vickie Washburn  
12 Michelle Via  
13 Lisa Shepherd  
16 Ashlee W. Dalton  
16 Haley Morris  
17 Nancy Martin  
20 Taylor Amos  
22 Jonathan Mitchell  
23 Donald Via  
24 Colton Haynes  
26 Heather Amos  
29 Curtis Washburn  
30 Barrett Pruett  
31 Lacey Mitchell

## **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

20 Mike & Pam Doyle

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family please email me at [barb-smith@b2xonline.com](mailto:barb-smith@b2xonline.com) or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.

